

# NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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***For Immediate Release***

***February 14, 2005***

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on January 4, 2005, **ANTWAN L. TOMPKIN**, age 26, and **LEE M. CARROLL**, age 38, both of Washington Park, Illinois, were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois, in a one-count indictment, charging them with conspiracy to distribute 5 grams of more of crack cocaine. The violation took place between September 2004, and October 1, 2004, in Williamson County. An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury. TOMPKIN and CARROLL are being held without bond pending their September 27, 2004, jury trial.

The charge carries a penalty of between 5 and 40 years' imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and 4 years supervised release.

Information for the indictment was obtained through the cooperative effort of the Southern Illinois Enforcement Group, Marion Police Department, Williamson County Sheriff's Department, and Drug Enforcement Administration, pursuant to those agencies' participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative in the Southern District of Illinois. Under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors are working together to prosecute drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and criminals that use firearms to commit violent offenses or drug trafficking offenses.

The case is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson for prosecution.